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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 1, 2020

## Judicial Branch in Maricopa County Suspends Jury Trials through July 31, 2020

PHOENIX- Presiding Judge Joseph C. Welty has once again halted all new jury selection for the Judicial Branch of Arizona in Maricopa County in response to the increased spread of Coronavirus in our community. The suspension applies to all courts located in Maricopa County now through close of business on *Friday, July 31, 2020*. Grand Jury operations have also been suspended effective July 6<sup>th</sup> through the end of the month.

During the public health crisis, the Court has taken appropriate steps to minimize the risk to employees and the public by escalating safety precautions as the local health situation has changed. Postcards notifying prospective jurors are sent four to six weeks in advance; as such, members of the public will continue to receive summonses for jury service. Those summonsed for a date later than July 31, 2020 are strongly encouraged to reply as soon as possible so the Court has their current contact information in the event future electronic alerts are sent. The online questionnaire may be filled out up to ten days before the scheduled jury service date and may eliminate the need to appear in person.

Answers to common questions may be found on the Court's Jury Service COVID-19 <u>FAQ sheet.</u> For more information prospective jurors are invited to call 602-506-5879 Monday through Friday from 7:30 AM until 5 PM or visit <a href="https://superiorcourt.maricopa.gov/jury/">https://superiorcourt.maricopa.gov/jury/</a> to chat online with jury staff.

"The Judicial Branch of Arizona is committed to excellence and the principles inherent in the rule of law ... every person, every day, every time."